



**Herut's Dark Prince**  
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# THE JERUSALEM POST

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## 2.2% rise in CPI less than forecast

## Interest rates to drop 'soon'

By AVI TEMKIN

Post Economic Reporter

The Bank of Israel is expected to announce a new cut in interest rates soon following the lower than expected inflation rate for April announced on Friday and forecasts of a further drop in the pace of inflation in the coming months.

The Central Bureau of Statistics announced on Friday that the Consumer Price Index rose by 2.2 per cent last month, bringing the index to 174.2 points on a 1985/100 base-line. The Treasury had previously forecast an inflation rate closer to the 3 per cent mark, reflecting the effects of seasonal factors and the impact of January's devaluation of the shekel. [In April 1986 the CPI rose by 3.3.]

Bank Hapoalim did not wait for the Bank of Israel to announce a cut in interest rates. It announced last night that from June onwards it would reduce interest rates on overdrafts on private accounts by 2 per cent in annual terms. Bank Leumi also announced that it would reduce interest rates on dollar-linked credits. The central bank is expected to follow the lead of the commercial banks, as it has done on several occasions in recent months.

Finance Minister Moshe Nissim reacted with satisfaction to the news of the low rise in the CPI. He took advantage of the good news to call on the Labour Party to continue collaborating within the national unity government to consolidate economic achievements. An election campaign would seriously hamper stability, he said.

In an official statement the Treasury declared yesterday that April's inflation rate proved that the process of inflation was converging towards the lower levels predicted by the ministry. The Treasury added that the future path of inflation would be a function of its success to impose fiscal and wage restraint.

But Histadrut secretary-general Yisrael Kessar was not as optimistic as Nissim. After the announcement by the Statistics Bureau he said he was concerned with the climate of uncertainty in the economy caused by political developments. In such a situation, he said, it would be better to hold early elections before the present political climate could affect economic stability, he said.

Kessar denied that the Histadrut would use its power to hinder economic policy for political purposes. "We drafted our demands for a shorter working week and higher wages for low paid workers before the present crisis and we will stick to those demands," he added.

The figures released on Friday showed that the CPI rose by 2.1 per cent in the 12 months ending in April. In the first third of 1987 prices went up by 6.8 per cent. Bureau officials said on Friday that the monthly pace of inflation for the first four months of 1987 stood at some 1.5 per cent, similar to the one for 1986. But the Treasury has already indicated that it expects a much lower inflation rate in the coming months.

The rise in the index for last month reflected some seasonal price increases as well as a rise in bus fares. The prices of clothing and footwear rose by 10.9 per cent last month, those of fruits and vegetables increased by 4.1 per cent and those of transport and communications services by 3.6 per cent.



Foreign Minister Peres smiles at reporters in New York over the weekend. (AFP)

## The Gush squabble—behind closed doors

By JOEL GREENBERG  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

"My dear Daniel, you are not fit to be secretary-general," Hanan Porat lashed out at Daniella Weiss during a marathon meeting of Gush Emunim's secretariat that began Thursday night and ended early Friday.

"The cab drivers and the people in the street who are saying 'Right on, Daniella,' are behind her for the same reason they support Kahane and Kach, not out of a positive feeling for the Land of Israel," he added.

Porat's withering criticism capped a night of tense exchanges during a closed-door meeting that ended with a compromise power-sharing formula and an apology by Yoel Bin-Nun, the leader of the opposition, to Weiss for "insulting remarks if any were made." The formula will be submitted for approval to the Gush Emunim expanded secretariat, which meets tomorrow.

Weiss held on to her position as secretary-general, but her powers were diluted by the appointment of a four-man administrative committee to work with her. Hanan Porat was put in charge of information and education, Uri Ariel appointed organization chief, and Benny Katzover was made coordinator of the movement's political committee. Rabbi Moshe Levinger, Weiss's mentor, was also appointed to the committee. It was decided to set up a 200-to-300 member assembly representing rank and file membership.

A statement issued after the meeting referred to recent clashes in Kalkilya between settlers and troops, and condemned "violence by all sides."

Bin-Nun last week spearheaded a move to oust Weiss after she led a rampage through Kalkilya in response to a petrol bomb attack near the West Bank town on May 1. Bin-Nun and other secretariat members criticized Weiss's militant style and said it had alienated the public from Gush Emunim.

During the stormy secretariat meeting, punctuated by shouts and loud arguments, members pressed Porat to resume an active role in the movement. Participants debated a draft resolution that condemned violent confrontations with the IDF, but also warned that any "political use" of the army would be met with demonstrations against Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Appointment of a Gush Emunim member as a "liaison officer" with the IDF was also discussed.

There were also proposals not to reveal personnel changes to the media, to avoid creating the impression that Weiss had been ousted. "Daniella can be ousted, but not to the media," said one participant.

Another said nothing should be announced as long as media attention was focused on the movement. He proposed a two-week ban on the individual statements to the press. "We can't have this situation where one person is lying here, the other is lying there, and we get into a hole from which we can't climb out. Appointments should not be discussed as long as the media is around," he said.

One exchange focused on the Kalkilya rampage: "This kind of thing means 'we're bringing up our next generation on the ideals of the [Jewish terrorist] underground.'" "Kalkilya wasn't revenge. There's a difference between revenge and protest at the scene of an incident. You just can't keep silent."

## Thatcher, Kinnock kick off election drive

PERTH, Scotland (Reuters). — Conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and opposition Labour leader Neil Kinnock started their parties' electoral campaigns with speeches signalling a month of bitter political wrangling in the run-up to the British general election.

But both leaders took time off from campaigning to attend the Football Association Cup final at Wembley stadium yesterday.

## Officials claim 'significant progress' made

# U.S. still backing parley

By WOLF BLITZER

WASHINGTON — Despite Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's strong opposition, the U.S. has again restated its willingness to work for the convening of an international conference on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Senior U.S. officials said that they did not want to interfere in the domestic Israeli political crisis between Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres over the holding of a conference.

But the Americans made clear yesterday that their position on an international meeting had not changed. They insisted again that "significant progress" had in fact recently been achieved in arranging such a gathering. They openly expressed concern that the political turmoil in Israel — unless resolved soon — could totally disrupt the peace process. U.S. officials expressed fear that the carefully worked-out agreements between Israel and Jordan on the exact scope of the international

conference could begin to unravel unless the momentum was maintained in the coming weeks.

The U.S. was actively involved in helping Israel and Jordan reach a formal agreement restricting the scope of an international conference, it was said. At the same time, however, the Americans acknowledged that there was little the U.S. could do practically until the political situation in Israel improved.

Secretary of State George Shultz was due to meet in New York last night with Peres. Later, both men were to address a David Ben-Gurion centennial dinner in New York.

Peres, after appearing on NBC News' "Meet the Press" programme and attending a "Salute to Israel" parade in New York this morning is scheduled to fly to Washington to address the opening of the annual policy conference of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, the pro-Israel lobbying group on Capitol Hill.

From the meeting, Peres is to drive to Shultz's home in Bethesda

for a second meeting. Shultz will speak at the conference later in the evening around the same time that Peres was planning to return to New York to connect for his return flight to Israel.

At the State Department on Friday, spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley said the U.S. while refusing to comment on internal Israeli politics, did read a carefully-drafted statement which noted that "significant progress" has been achieved lately in promoting the peace process. In the statement, the U.S. clearly tilted toward the view endorsed by Peres as opposed to Shamir.

"Our objective is peace," the statement said. "We remain convinced that peace can only be reached through face-to-face, or direct bilateral negotiations. As we have stated recently, there has been significant progress in our effort to see whether a conference can lead promptly to face-to-face bilateral negotiations and not interfere with those negotiations."

In response to a question, she said

that the subject of an international peace conference was still "part of our discussion on the peace process." She agreed that the matter would arise during the Shultz-Peres meetings. (Shamir has maintained that Israeli representatives were no longer authorized to discuss an international conference since the inner cabinet last week failed to endorse the concept.)

The director-general of Prime Minister Shamir's office, Yosef Ben-Aharon, has wound up his talks in Washington and returned to New York. Ben-Aharon met with officials in the White House and State Department, forcefully rejecting the notion of an international conference. Israeli officials said that Ben-Aharon had been sent to Washington to let senior U.S. officials know exactly how strong Shamir's opposition to an international conference really is. "He succeeded in getting that message across," one Israeli official said. But Ben-Aharon failed to persuade the Americans to drop their support for an international conference as envisaged by Peres.

## Soviets soothe Syria

Post Middle East Staff  
and agencies

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has assured Syrian President Hafez Assad that the Soviet Union will not attend an international conference on the Middle East without Syria's participation, the Kuwait newspaper *Al-Qabas* reported yesterday.

The assurances were "officially conveyed" to Assad during talks with Gorbachev in Moscow last month, the newspaper said in a report attributed to reliable Arab sources in Paris.

Recent Syrian government statements on the subject have been very carefully worded. According to Israeli commentators, the Syrians are trying to keep their options open with regard to their participation in the conference.

Assad has privately given Jordanian King Hussein his blessing and support for his efforts to promote to the conference. Hussein needs this support to protect himself from extremists in the Arab world.

Assad does not automatically follow the Kremlin line even though he is careful to give the Soviet point of view a fair hearing. His main objective is to recover the Golan Heights, and if he sees that peace negotiations are leading towards Israeli territorial concessions he will be eager to join the conference.

The Kremlin seems to be increasing its support for an international peace conference. Radio Moscow, monitored by Israel Radio, suggested in a Hebrew-language late night broadcast that bilateral negotiations were possible within the framework of an international conference and that "unexpected decisions" could ensue from the conference.

According to the Kuwait paper, Gorbachev made his pledge to support Syria after receiving information that U.S. Secretary of State, George Shultz had proposed that Egypt, Jordan, the Palestinians and Israel attend the international conference and that both Syria and the PLO be excluded.

"The conference is intended to be merely a coverup for direct Arab-Israeli negotiations," *Al-Qabas* quoted the sources in Paris as saying.

"The Soviet Union wants the proposed conference to be a real forum for bringing about a settlement in the Middle East," the newspaper said.

In Damascus the Syrian state radio said yesterday that the U.S. was to blame for the poor U.S.-Syrian relations and would be responsible for their improvement or further deterioration.

The radio was commenting on a statement by U.S. State Department spokesman Charles Redman that Washington would not return its ambassador to Damascus until Syria meets certain conditions and stops backing terrorism.

Ambassador William Eagleton was recalled to Washington last summer following Britain's break in relations with Syria for its alleged involvement in terrorism. Damascus denied the charge.

The radio said that Syria was against terrorism, "but Washington has so far failed to agree to Syria's proposal calling for an international conference to define terrorism. It is high time for the rulers in Washington to understand that Damascus does not need to threats... Life in Syria will remain normal with or without an American ambassador."

## Religious bloc 'milking' crisis

By MENACHEM SHALEV  
Post Political Reporter

The religious parties plan to cash in this week on the Likud's gestures of courtship. They want Rabbi Yitzhak Peretz as the Interior Minister; want the problem of Reform convert registrations "settled"; and they want the wheels set in motion for "yet another attempt to secure Knesset approval of the 'Who is a Jew' bill."

Labour, meanwhile, will start going through the motions of trying to persuade the religious parties that early elections are in the best electoral interests and that the national unity government cannot continue to function in its present state. The three-man Labour team appointed to the task is to meet with Peretz and Shas' representatives in Jerusalem this morning and with a five-man National Religious Party team in the afternoon.

The Torah Council of Sages is expected to approve Shas' return to the government in a meeting this

evening. The breakthrough was achieved in a Friday meeting between Peretz and Likud, in which the Likud apparently pledged to enact legislation which would enable the Population Registrar to make note of Reform conversions.

Sources in the NRP said last night that party representatives had promised Prime Minister Shamir not to support early elections.

Tomorrow Labour is expected to ask Mapam and the Citizens Rights Movement to postpone the hearing of their motions of no-confidence in the government which are due to be put to a vote in the Knesset on Tuesday. Despite a Labour ministers' decision last Wednesday to support the government in a motion of no-confidence, Labour is in a quandary over their leftist allies' motions since, in answering, Shamir is expected to reiterate his stand that Foreign Minister Peres no longer has a mandate to work towards an international conference.

Labour will also argue with

Mapam and the CRM that if the Likud fails to make good in its pledge for passage of the Who is a Jew bill, the religious parties might yet be persuaded to support early elections.

The religious parties expect the Likud to deliver 38 of its 41 Knesset votes for the bill. Liberal MK's Sarah Doron, Dan Tichon and Ariel Weinstein are expected not to support the bill, but any additional Likud defections would be viewed by the religious parties as a Likud breach of trust. The current political crisis, has so far strengthened the political coalition between the Likud and the religious parties.

If the Likud does make good on its pledge, the Who is a Jew bill — or the Rabbinical courts bill — can count on the support of no more than 55 MKs: Likud's 41, NRP's 5, SHAS' 4, Agudat Yisrael's 2, three of Tzohar's five and MKs Aharon Abu-Aziza, Meir Kahane and Avraham Verdin.

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)

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## Soviets test new shuttle-type rocket

MOSCOW (AP). — Soviet officials yesterday announced they have successfully tested a powerful launch vehicle that apparently would give them the ability to put into orbit reusable vessels similar to U.S. space shuttles.

The official news agency Tass said the launch vehicle, Energia, blasted off from the Baikonur space centre on Friday evening. Its two stages worked perfectly, both landing at pre-determined points after their engines shut down. But a mock-up satellite carried by the launcher failed to reach orbit.

The launch and flight proved "the high reliability of its design, engines of both stages and control systems," Tass said.

"Vremya," the evening news programme, showed the blast-off in a five-minute report that led off its broadcast. The film showed what appeared to be several small rockets

attached to a taller rocket with a rounded, cone-shaped tip. The rocket took off in a streak of white that brightened the night sky in Soviet Kazakhstan.

"Vremya" said the vehicle's engines are the most powerful in the world. Tass added that the vehicle is intended to "put into near-earth orbit both reusable orbital spacecrafts and large-size space vehicles for use in science and in the economy."

"The two-stage multi-purpose launch vehicle has a launching thrust of more than 2,000 tons and is capable of putting into orbit more than 100 tons of payload," Tass said.

Energia launched a full-scale mock-up of a satellite which was to go into earth orbit, Tass said, but it reported that the satellite's on-board systems failed and it splashed down in the Pacific Ocean.

The first stage of the launch vehicle

landed as planned on Soviet territory, while the second landed at a predetermined point in the Pacific, Tass said.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev visited the space centre last week and made a speech praising the high technology used in the Soviet space programme. There was no indication at the time of his visit that the launch was planned.

Soviet space officials said in January they were testing a shuttle-type spacecraft. Alexander Lunayev, head of the Soviet commercial space agency Glavkosmos, said then that the Soviets consider such vehicles useful for servicing space stations and satellites, and recovering objects from orbit.

But he added the Soviet Union believes single-use rocket boosters are more economical for launching satellites.



# HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

British minister responsible for Mideast policy to Post:

## No chance of direct talks with Jordan without int'l umbrella

By DAVID HOROWITZ

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

LONDON. — There is no prospect of Jordan agreeing to direct, bilateral negotiations with Israel without the umbrella of an international conference, according to Britain's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Timothy Renton.

In an exclusive interview with *The Jerusalem Post*, Renton said that it was "not feasible for the Jordanians to accept a change in that position, in view of the constant Palestinian pressure in and around Jordan."

The minister, who is responsible for British policy on the Middle East, said that it was very much in Israel's own interest to support an international conference.

"We have had, since 1985, a situation of virtual stagnation, which leads to despair. Despair, in turn, engenders terrorism," said Renton.

"Where dispossessed Palestinians can see absolutely no hope for the future, it is then, I think, that they are ready, recruits for terrorist gangs."

Renton said he believed that "Israel has suffered on the Lebanese border" as a direct result of this stagnation-despair-terrorism cycle, and that, therefore, it was "in Israel's interest to be seen to be part of a process that has some momentum to it, and that has some hope."

Renton said that he had detected "a new sense of vigour and enthusiasm" in the most recent round of contacts between Middle Eastern leaders, and that he felt progress was being made towards a conference, with "people really getting down to the job of working out the details."

He has had talks in recent days with Egyptian Minister of State Boutros Ghali and presidential aide

Osama al-Baz, and said that the Egyptians are "very much looking for ways and means of getting the process under way."

Indeed, reports circulating here suggest that Egypt has launched something of a campaign to win more support for an international conference, with Ghali touring European capitals and apparently anxious to involve the EEC in preparations for the conference.

Renton said that he believed Premier Thatcher's good personal relationship with King Hussein, combined with Britain's diplomatic expertise, position on the UN Security Council, and historical links with the Arab world enable it to exert some influence on movement towards a conference. Britain, he said, played a "major part" in securing the EEC foreign ministers' February commitment to the idea of an international

conference.

Renton said that he did not regard the composition of a Jordanian/Palestinian delegation as an insuperable problem, and he shared Foreign Minister Shimon Peres's view that this issue might be dealt with once sufficient momentum for a conference has built up.

He did, however, feel that a conference would only be feasible if it was proved that the "proposition of land for peace is really acceptable to the majority of people in Israel."

Asked whether the Arab world feels that the ball is now in Israel's court, and that Israeli commitment to a peace conference is the next requirement, Renton said: "Consistently the Arab world thinks that the ball is in the Israeli court. And Israel thinks that the ball is in the Arab court. I should have thought that that is the normal state of play."

## Peres: Best chance for peace is now

By WALTER RUBY

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

NEW YORK. — Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, while assuring American Jewish audiences here on Friday that he had not come to the U.S. to gain American Jewish and U.S. government support for his plan to convene an international conference, stressed that "never since the independence of the State of Israel has there been... a better occasion" to achieve a breakthrough to Israeli-Arab peace.

Prominent American Jews who heard Peres's speeches to the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations and to Operation Independence leaders, said that although the foreign minister had given an impressive presentation of his position on the peace conference, the organized American Jewish community would remain neutral in the Peres-Shamir conflict, and was unlikely to reach a consensus on the issue.

Peres compared the present Israeli debate over the terms for peace talks with the internal debate in 1948 over whether to seize the moment and declare the establishment of the state. Alluding to the need to hold out the possibility of territorial compromise today, Peres said that "if (Ben Gurion) had listened to the wise men who said the wholeness of Israel (in all of Palestine) was more important than independence, maybe we would have no state today."

Nevertheless, Peres denounced as a "smear campaign" against him charges that he has promised to return territories to the Arabs as part of a peace settlement. He declared that he believed there now existed an Israeli-Arab understanding "to start negotiations without preconditions." According to Peres, this agreement is extremely significant because in the past both Israel and the Arabs had been unsuccessfully "trying to reach agreement without negotiations."

Referring to his "talks with Arab leaders," which many took as an oblique confirmation of reports that he and Defence Minister Yitzhak

Rabin had met King Hussein in London last month, Peres said that there is growing awareness in the Arab world of the critical state of the Arab economies and that the Arabs "have nothing to attract new investment except for peace."

On the subject of Soviet involvement in the international conference, Peres noted that in 1973 the Soviets had allowed themselves to serve "as an ornament" at the Geneva peace conference, "and nothing happened to us or them." He said, however, that the proposed peace conference would not be "just a ceremony," because "Hussein needs the legitimization of the superpowers to go ahead and negotiate."

Peres added, "Suppose the Russians don't behave and try to impose conditions? We just say *Spasibo* (thank you) and leave the conference." Peres said he believed that both the U.S. and Britain (which, he said, is led by "a grand lady with guts") would also walk out in support of Israel.

Assessments of Peres's remarks by American Jewish leaders varied widely. Rabbi Alexander Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Reform) said that Peres had been "extremely persuasive," adding that "his reasoning was impeccable. A lot of people, including myself, had serious questions about this proposal, and Peres provided answers that satisfied me. His answers were very solid and not airy-fairy."

However, Rabbi Fabian Schonfeld, former president of the Rabbinical Council of America (Orthodox), remarked: "I don't think Peres was very convincing, even to many people who tended to be sympathetic to him." Schonfeld, who asked Peres whether his push for an international peace conference might not increase the danger to Jews in settlements in Samaria, where two of Schonfeld's own children live, said he was "not at all satisfied" with Peres's response that his peace plan called for negotiating without preconditions. "I had always understood that the Labour position was to exchange land for peace."

## Arafat sneers at Peres's 'bluff'

WASHINGTON. — PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat has suggested that Foreign Minister Shimon Peres has not suffered "a complete setback," and has "only delayed" a showdown with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir on the issue of an international conference on the Middle East.

But Arafat, in an interview published yesterday in *The Washington Post*, made clear his satisfaction over Peres's inability to muster enough votes in the Knesset to bring down the coalition government.

Noting that the Soviet Union would have been relegated to a largely ceremonial role in the proposed international conference, Arafat asked: "Why did Rakah (Israel's pro-Moscow Communist party) not give Peres their four votes? You'll have to ask him."

Arafat speculated that "one of the fatal mistakes" of "the engineers who designed Peres's bluff was their hurry to finish" before the convening of another U.S.-Soviet summit, in the erroneous belief that Moscow would accept something short of a substantive role in a Middle East conference.

Now, Arafat said, more time was needed to prepare an international conference "on completely different foundations, dealing not just as a conference whose tactics and maneuverings" are aimed "against the main figure of the Middle East dilemma, the Palestinians and the PLO."

Arafat, who was interviewed in Tunis by correspondent Jonathan C. Randall, predicted that the PLO's recent rift with Egypt would end "very soon." He described President Hosni Mubarak as his "old personal friend."

"I think relations with Egypt will be back on an even keel very soon because what happened was just a summer cloud."

But he said that any PLO reconciliation with Syrian President Assad "in my opinion will not happen very soon."

Arafat was very angry about a proposal by Republican Senator Robert Dole that the PLO's offices in New York and Washington be shut down. "If this happens — and we hope it will not happen — it will be a disaster not just for the PLO but for the entire peace process in the Middle East, and put all moderate Arab states in a very embarrassing and critical position."

The PLO leader also complained about a recent meeting between Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans, representing the 10-nation European Community, and the Israeli military governor of the West Bank.

Arafat said he was "astounded" to read about the meeting, which was described as the first with a military governor by any western official since the 1967 war. Arafat said he had asked his Brussels representative for an "urgent meeting" with Tindemans.

## Secretary of defence meets with Rabin

## Zaire seeking increased military aid

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT

Post Defence Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Zaire's Secretary of Defence, Likulia Bolongo, on Friday asked Israel to increase its military aid and amend elements of the military cooperation arrangement between the two countries.

The requests were represented at a meeting with Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin about an hour after Bolongo arrived in Israel on a visit.

Israeli officers have for years been training Zaire's presidential division stationed in the capital, Kinshasa, and the Kamanevula division deployed in the Shaba province.

Following the visit of President Mobutu Sese Seko in the summer of 1985, Israel also opened an \$8m. credit line for Zaire.

Bolongo is asking that the \$8m. be

turned into revolving credit and that Israel send his country other weapons than those originally ordered.

Rabin was non-committal regarding the finances but agreed in principle to amend Zaire's "shopping list."

Yesterday, Bolongo visited holy sites in Jerusalem and Bethlehem and walked along the Via Dolorosa. In the evening Rabin hosted a dinner in his honour.

Today, Bolongo will visit the central command accompanied by his new OIC, Aluf Amram Mizrahi, who visited Zaire when he served as assistant to the head of the IDF's Staff Branch. Bolongo will call upon Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir before leaving the country in the evening.



Likulia Bolongo (M. Daniel, Media)

## RELIGIOUS

(Continued from Page One)

ger. Verdiger is expected to present the motion to the Knesset.

Labour yesterday reiterated that it would not relax party discipline against the Who is a Jew bill under any circumstances. Only Labour MK Rabbi Menachem Hacohen has received permission to refrain from voting against the bill. Party sources said yesterday however that they would consider other demands put by the religious parties.

The CRM and Mapam yesterday warned Labour against giving in to the religious parties' demands. The CRM said that Labour should not give in to "religious and heredit extortions."

MK Yair Tsaban of Mapam blasted the Likud's "political bribery" and warned that Mapam would not support early elections if these entail "rotten compromises" with the religious parties.

Tsaban said last night that the "best time" for Labour for a vote on early elections would come only in July, in order to facilitate elections in November.

Both big parties are also facing a latent — but increasing — disquiet in their own ranks. Herut politicians are upset by reports of negotiations on assured Knesset slots for Abuhaziera's Tami party and for Yigael Hurvitz's Ometz party. Herut is already pledged to allocate 13 realistic Knesset slots to the Liberal Party, and further promises only serve to distance aspiring Herut politicians from any hope of reaching the Knesset.

Some Likud MKs have also spoken recently, of their distaste for — and the possible negative electoral ramifications of the Likud's "sell-out" to the religious parties.

For their part, Labour politicians are quietly smouldering over what they view as inept political maneuvering by Peres and his confidants and advisers. The inner-party calls for a unilateral departure from the government are increasing. At the forefront of this campaign, and in opposition to the Labour ministers' position, stands party secretary-general Uzi Baram, who is also in the forefront of Labour's seemingly futile attempts to get parliamentary support for early elections.

## Prisoner of Zion placed in solitary for refusing to wear yellow badge

Prisoner of Zion Alexei Magarik was placed in solitary confinement twice for refusing a prison directive that he wear a yellow badge identifying him as an "especially violent prisoner," his wife reported yesterday after visiting him in Siberia.

Speaking by telephone with Soviet Jewry activists here, Natasha Rainer-Magarik said that her husband had originally balked at wearing the badge because it evoked memories of the Star of David worn by European Jews during World War II.

"He looked bad," Rainer-Magarik said. "His hands were full of cuts and on his shirt there was the yellow patch."

She was permitted a two-hour visit during which she was separated from her husband by double-plated glass and forced to communicate by telephone.

Following her visit, Rainer-Magarik appealed to Soviet Interior Ministry officials to have the badge removed and to permit a three-day visit with her husband.

Meanwhile, following the death last week of Soviet refusenik Yuri Shepeizman in Vienna en route to Israel, leading Soviet aliya activists sent a letter to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev demanding recognition of their right to emigrate to Israel.

"This tragedy was not coincidental, nor was it exceptional — this was a criminal act that is impossible to forgive or forget," said the letter.

"We demand that the officials responsible for this tragedy be put on trial.... We demand recognition of our rights to return to our birthplace, to Israel, based on international laws and promises. The tragedy of Yuri Shepeizman must not be in vain." (Itim).

## Terror suspects arrested for petrol bomb attacks

Security forces recently arrested the alleged members of three terrorist gangs suspected of carrying out petrol bomb attacks against Israeli vehicles in the Kalkilya area, Tel-karm and Dehaishe refugee camp near Bethlehem.

One of the gangs is suspected of five of the seven petrol-bomb attacks in the Kalkilya area over the past month. However the gang is not believed to be responsible for the

petrol bomb attack that killed Ofra Moses on April 11 and wounded her husband and children. Several Kalkilya youths are among those detained.

On Friday afternoon an Israeli soldier was slightly wounded when his unit was stoned by youths at the Balata refugee camp near Nablus. He was treated on the spot. The soldiers dispersed the youths by firing rubber bullets. (Itim)

We announce, with deep sorrow, the passing of my dear wife, our mother and grandmother

**HELEN LAZARUS**

The funeral will leave at 5 p.m. today, May 17, 1987, from the Beit Yitzhak cemetery at Sha'ar Hefer.

Husband: Walter Lazarus  
Daughters: Ilana and Zorach Malk  
Gavriella and Yehoshua Smith  
Granddaughters and the entire family in Israel and abroad

In deep sorrow we announce the passing of our dear brother-in-law and uncle

**MAX LAMPEL**

The funeral will take place tomorrow, Monday, May 18, 1987. The procession will leave from the Mt. of Olives cemetery entrance near the Intercontinental Hotel at 12 noon.

Dr. Clara Perlberger, Haifa  
Leopold Seifin, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Lily Hui and family, Alpine, New Jersey  
Dr. Haran Peleg and family, Haifa

## Lag B'Omer Meron crowd may reach quarter million

MERON (Itim). — An estimated 50,000 people gathered at Mt. Meron in Galilee over the weekend and another 200,000 are expected to arrive today to celebrate Lag B'Omer, Religious Affairs Ministry director-general Zvulun Or-Lev reported.

A thousand buses are bringing celebrants to the site, where Rabbi Shimon Bar Yohai is believed to be buried.

Rabbi Bar Yohai, a second-century sage and author of the Zohar, hid here for 12 years after being sentenced to death by the Romans. According to tradition, he died on Lag B'Omer.

Police, firefighters and ambulance attendants are on duty at Mt. Meron, and undercover policemen are patrolling the area for pickpockets.

## Man shoots brother-in-law, self, in crowded bank

BY JONATHAN KARP

For The Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV. — A man, distraught over his failing marriage, fatally shot his wife's brother in a crowded Ramat Hasharon bank on Friday morning and then shot himself in the head with the revolver.

Yitzhak Asseo, 38, of Ra'anana, died from his wounds in Beilinson Hospital in Petah Tikva, and his assailant, Mordechai Balali, 55, of Tel Aviv, who was also admitted to Beilinson, died later.

A few minutes before 9 a.m. on Friday, Balali entered the branch of the American-Israeli Bank in Rehov Sokolov, where Asseo was deputy manager. Asseo was seated at his desk in a private office, but as soon

as he saw Balali coming toward him he jumped up and went towards the door of the office, eyewitnesses said.

The two men reportedly exchanged a few words and then Balali suddenly took out a revolver and fired, fatally wounding Asseo in the upper body. Two men rushed over to Balali and grabbed him. Balali wrestled free, and shot himself in the head.

The revolver Balali was carrying was registered to a security company which had employed him for the last three weeks as a guard at the Reading power plant in Tel Aviv. Balali has been separated from his wife for four months and reportedly blamed Asseo for influencing her to leave him.

TOMBSTONE UNVEILING  
On the seventh day after the passing of the distinguished rabbanit

**HADASSAH CHASSIA SOROTZKIN** זי"ע

we shall unveil the tombstone, Monday, 18 Iyar, 5747, at 2:00 p.m. in the Har Hamenuhot Cemetery, Jerusalem.

Transportation will leave for the cemetery from the yeshiva plaza, Telshie Stone, at 1:30 p.m., calling at the Hofman offices, 3 Rehov Yanai, at 1:45 p.m.

The Family

We mourn the death of

**HELENA FRANKEL**  
née Hammernann  
widow of the late Prof. Max Frankel

The funeral will take place today, Sunday, May 17, 1987, leaving Sanhedria, Jerusalem, at 10 a.m.

The Family

Our dear

**JOSEPH KITAYEV** ז"ל

is no more.

Mourners:  
Son, Shimon Kitayev  
Katayev, Ktaviash, Okon  
and Mitzengendler Families  
Lisa Weidenfeld, Ram

**The weather at major Swissair destinations**

15.5.87

|             | MIN. | C  | F  | MAX. | WIND   |
|-------------|------|----|----|------|--------|
| AMSTERDAM   | 5    | 11 | 52 | 46   | Bala   |
| BUSSELS     | 6    | 12 | 54 | 50   | Cloudy |
| BREMEN      | 6    | 12 | 54 | 50   | Cloudy |
| CHICAGO     | 5    | 11 | 52 | 46   | Cloudy |
| COPENHAGEN  | 7    | 13 | 55 | 53   | Cloudy |
| FRANKFURT   | 6    | 12 | 54 | 50   | Cloudy |
| GENEVA      | 7    | 13 | 55 | 53   | Cloudy |
| HELSINKI    | 6    | 12 | 54 | 50   | Cloudy |
| HONGKONG    | 24   | 75 | 85 | 82   | Bala   |
| LOS ANGELES | 15   | 59 | 70 | 77   | Cloudy |
| LONDON      | 13   | 55 | 70 | 77   | Cloudy |
| MADRID      | 9    | 48 | 78 | 77   | Cloudy |
| MONTREAL    | 6    | 43 | 88 | 77   | Cloudy |
| NEW YORK    | 6    | 43 | 88 | 77   | Cloudy |
| OSLO        | 3    | 37 | 11 | 52   | Cloudy |
| PARIS       | 8    | 46 | 11 | 52   | Cloudy |
| SAO PAULO   | 18   | 64 | 59 | 81   | Cloudy |
| SINGAPORE   | 24   | 75 | 85 | 82   | Bala   |
| STOCKHOLM   | 8    | 46 | 11 | 52   | Cloudy |
| TOKYO       | 14   | 57 | 72 | 72   | Cloudy |
| TORONTO     | 6    | 43 | 88 | 77   | Cloudy |
| VIENNA      | 11   | 52 | 13 | 56   | Cloudy |
| ZURICH      | 8    | 46 | 11 | 52   | Cloudy |

\*For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.

Tel Aviv: 1 Ben Yehuda St. Tel. 05-910250  
Jerusalem: 33 Jaffa St. Tel. 02-237073  
Haifa: 2 Ben Zvi St. Tel. 04-261555  
Be'er Sheva: 36 Ha'atzi St. Tel. 05-252525  
Cairo: Ben-Gurion Airport, Tel. 02-971251

**swissair**

**THE WEATHER**

Forecast: Hot and dry.

|             | Yesterday's High/Low | Today's High/Low |
|-------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Jerusalem   | 13-20                | 31               |
| Golan       | 12-15                | 31               |
| Nahariya    | 7-9                  | 25               |
| Safed       | 10-13                | 32               |
| Haifa Port  | 7-15                 | 24               |
| Tiberias    | 26                   | 35               |
| Nazareth    | 11-20                | 32               |
| Ahlat       | 11-22                | 33               |
| Shomron     | 12-18                | 32               |
| Tel Aviv    | 22-24                | 26               |
| B-G Airport | 12-13                | 30               |
| Jericho     | 28                   | 37               |
| Qaza        | 16-22                | 34               |
| Beersheba   | 24                   | 33               |
| Eilat       | 12                   | 37               |

**ARRIVALS**

Prof. Bob and Mrs. Etkin, Mr. Sidney Spivak, Canada; Mrs. Emilia Wedrowski, Denmark; Mrs. Anita Alexander-Pase, England; Mr. Karl Bouter, Germany; Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Lubner, South Africa; Mrs. Suzanne Zlotowski, Switzerland; Mr. Robert Amos, chairman, Board of Governors, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev; Mr. Isaac Auerbach, President, American Associates, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev; Dr. John Beck, Mr. and Mrs. Irwin Goldenberg, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Siegmund, all from the U.S.A.; all guests of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, to participate in the 17th annual Board of Governors meeting.

## Panamanian president due today

Jerusalem Post Staff

Panamanian President Eric Arturo Delvalle is due here today on a five-day official visit, the first ever to the Middle East by a president of that country.

Delvalle, who is Jewish, is to meet with Prime Minister Shamir, President Chaim Herzog and Acting Foreign Minister Ezer Weizman. He is being accompanied by his foreign minister and industry and trade minister, the first of whom is to sign a bilateral tourism agreement here.



Kathleen Kennedy, daughter of the late senator Robert Kennedy, on Friday plants a tree in memory of her father at the Yad Kennedy memorial outside Jerusalem. She was a guest of the Jewish National Fund. (Yitzhak Alharar)

## Jemayel said threatening to quit

BEIRUT (AP). — President Amin Jemayel was reported yesterday to have threatened to resign after failing to resolve a cabinet crisis prompted by the resignation of his Sunni Moslem prime minister, Rashid Karami, two weeks ago.

Jemayel has been under pressure from right-wing factions within his own Christian community to accept Karami's resignation as Syria, the main power-broker in Lebanon, has sought to persuade Karami to change his mind.

The Voice of Lebanon Radio said that the president was in touch with

the "various leaderships" to find a way out of the impasse, and would resign if these efforts failed.

The radio, which speaks for Jemayel's Christian Phalangie party, said the president "believes the crisis is far bigger than accepting or rejecting the premier's resignation. Such an acceptance or rejection does not help to alter any of the realities of the crisis, which concerns the nation's very existence."

The independent Beirut newspaper *An-Nahar* said Jemayel was "on the verge of an historic decision to bow out."

Independent observers said the report appears to have been deliberately leaked by presidential aides to test public feelings.

Jemayel's six-year term ends in September next year.

Christian militia commanders have been urging Jemayel to accept Karami's resignation and to form a new cabinet.

Karami announced he was quitting on May 4, citing failure of his Christian-Moslem cabinet to cope with the economic crisis triggered by 12 years of civil war.

Almost all Moslem politicians and militias as well as Syria have declared support for Karami, which makes it difficult for Jemayel to find an acceptable Sunni successor willing to form a new cabinet. Under an unwritten national covenant, Lebanon's president should be a Maronite and the prime minister a Sunni.

**Lisa Regine Birnbach** Steven Haft  
Engaged  
New York, NY May 17, 1987  
Tel Aviv, Israel Lag Be'omer



## Barbie need not attend, judge says

LYON (Reuter). — The judge presiding in the trial of Klaus Barbie on Friday rejected appeals by lawyers that the former Nazi officer be forced to end his boycott of the proceedings and return to sit in a glass-protected dock.

"There is no question of making him appear before the court," ruled Judge Andre Cerdal on the fifth day of Barbie's trial for crimes against humanity.

Barbie, Gestapo chief in this southeastern French city from 1942 to 1944, has not appeared in court since Wednesday when he demanded that he be taken back to his prison cell.

He staged the walk-out saying he had been held illegally in France since what he called his kidnapping from Bolivia in 1983.

In the defendant's absence, the court Friday began reviewing evidence of the "Butcher of Lyon's" alleged involvement in the death and deportation of 400 Jews and 300 anti-German Resistance fighters.

Barbie's lawyer Jacques Verges said previously his client will plead innocent to the charges.

Barbie's walkout on the third day of his trial caused an uproar among the 100-odd plaintiffs who have filed civil suits against the former Gestapo officer in addition to the state's charges of crimes against humanity.

The alleged victims of his interrogation methods, all of them aged and many of them maimed, accused the Nazi of cowardice in refusing to stand up and face the charges.



## Rita Hayworth, sultry star, at 68

NEW YORK (AP). — Rita Hayworth, who captivated audiences with sultry movie roles and a stormy personal life, and whose picture once was pasted on an atomic bomb, has died at age 68.

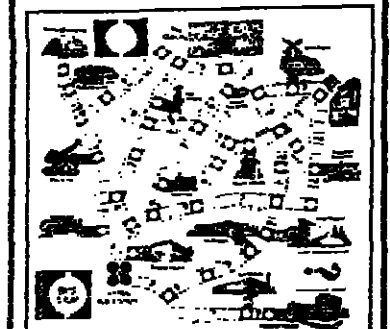
The actress, who suffered for years from Alzheimer's disease, an incurable brain disorder marked by irreversible loss of mental function, died Thursday night at the home of her daughter, Princess Yasmin Aga Khan, said a spokeswoman.

Before her illness, Hayworth's provocative beauty burned itself into movie legend.

Her picture was pasted on the first atomic bomb exploded in peacetime, on Bikini Atoll in 1946.

On screen, she played temptresses "Gilda," "Miss Sadie Thompson," and "Salome." Offscreen, she wed Orson Welles, then married Aly Khan in a French village in 1949. She was married five times.

## Jerusalem Bus Stop Board Game



The board game for Jerusalem lovers! Players race around the board attempting to visit 17 sites such as Yemin Moshe, Ammunition Hill and even the Jerusalem Post Building. Along the route, players draw from 70 fact-filled question cards and 70 sight-seeing cards. It's like a guided tour of Jerusalem, right at your own kitchen table! PRICE NIS 22.50 (including VAT and postage).

To: BOOKS, The Jerusalem Post, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000

Please send me the Jerusalem Bus Stop Game. I enclose a cheque for NIS 22.50 (including VAT and postage).

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CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
CODE \_\_\_\_\_  
TEL \_\_\_\_\_

## French leader raps Soviets on Jews

# Chirac visit fails to bridge gap on arms

MOSCOW. — Three days of talks between Soviet officials and French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac failed to bridge the gap between the two countries on disarmament issues, a Soviet spokesman said yesterday.

"We hope France will make its own contribution to nuclear disarmament and disarmament in Europe, but unfortunately our hopes have not materialized," Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov told reporters.

Chirac told a news conference yesterday that his visit "erased a certain number of misunderstandings" between the countries, but acknowledged later that their views on arms control remained far apart.

He also openly attacked Soviet policy on Jewish emigration and political dissidents.

The French Premier, who arrived in Moscow Thursday, held talks with Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev, Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov and other Kremlin officials. One of the topics discussed was the series of U.S. and Soviet proposals on elim-

inating medium- and short-range nuclear missiles from Europe.

Chirac said any accord on nuclear disarmament in Europe should take into account the 10,000-12,000 strategic warheads possessed by each superpower as well as conventional and chemical arms.

Chirac's talks with Soviet leaders were "rather sharp on disarmament matters," Gerasimov said. But he added disagreements in that field did not necessarily impede the two countries in a joint search for improved relations. (AP, Reuter)

Post Correspondent Michel Zlotowski reports from Paris:

Prime Minister Jacques Chirac lashed out yesterday on Soviet TV against the difficulties encountered by the Soviet Jews wishing to emigrate, the "Gulag" and the use made in the USSR of the psychiatric hospitals.

"There are only two countries left in the world that prevent the Jews from leaving their territory: the USSR and Syria. That's extraordinary!" said the Premier.

On the last day of his official visit to Moscow, Chirac had invited to breakfast at the French Embassy 40 refuseniks and dissidents, including Ida Nudel, who was allowed to come to Moscow for this special occasion.

Appearing live from the Red Square at the noon newscast on TF1, the French first TV channel, right after his meeting with Ryzhkov, Chirac said that he "had not neglected the human rights issue."

"The Human Rights," said Chirac, "here concern essentially the issue of the prisoners of conscience...and the interdiction for many people, essentially of the Jewish community, to emigrate if they wish to do so. I have publicly evoked this issue before Mikhail Gorbachev during my toast at the Kremlin dinner."

The prime minister also said that the issue had been "seriously" raised with his Soviet counterpart, to whom he had "for the first time personally given a list of humanitarian cases to which I wished to call his attention. It was, alas, a very long list."



Fijian soldiers on guard outside Parliament House in Suva await the arrival yesterday of the new Council of Ministers set up by Lt.-Col. Sitiveni Rabuka (inset) after seizing power in a bloodless coup last week. (See story below.) (AFP)

## Austrians 'disappointed' by U.S. statement on Waldheim

By ILLONA HENRY and agencies

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

VIENNA. — The Austrian government has expressed disappointment that a visiting delegation of the U.S. Justice Department has failed to present new written evidence to back up the American decision putting President Kurt Waldheim on a watch list.

The three Justice Department officials, Mark Richard, Neil Sber and Mary Mochary, gave Austrian officials only an oral account.

They explained that Waldheim had served in a unit of the German army involved in war crimes, and this was enough according to U.S. law to put him on the list. No person-

al guilt needed to be proved.

The Austrian delegation, including ambassador to the U.S. Thomas Klestil, rejected this line, saying that if it were really applied, half of the surviving veterans of the German army would be on the list.

U.S. ambassador to Austria Ronald Lauder said that the Justice Department mission constituted an extraordinary move by the U.S. to explain to a foreign government the grounds for an internal decision.

Justice Minister Egmont Foregger said before the meeting with the Americans that he assumed the officials would present documents.

A spokesman said next Tuesday's cabinet meeting would discuss how the government would react to the

Americans' failure to produce documents. A protest note was a possibility, he added.

Chancellor Franz Vranitzky is due to leave for a visit to the U.S. immediately after the cabinet meeting, a trip certain to be dominated by the Waldheim affair.

Former chancellor Bruno Kreisky also spoke out on Waldheim, saying the only hope of ending the affair was for the former UN secretary-general to take the initiative.

Waldheim had to win a slander action he had launched against World Jewish Congress (WJC) President Edgar Bronfman. Kreisky said, Waldheim hotly denies allegations, raised notably by the WJC, linking him to Nazi atrocities.

## New Fiji law would prevent Indian-majority government

SUVA (AP). — Coup leader Lt.-Col. Sitiveni Rabuka yesterday called for a new constitution that would prevent an Indian-dominated government from ever ruling Fiji, while Indian residents began protesting the military takeover.

Rabuka, 38, told a news conference, he staged Thursday's coup to "safeguard Fijian land and protect the Fijian way of life." A new constitution would be written to guarantee ethnic Fijian supremacy in the 300-island nation midway between Australia and Hawaii.

Indians are welcome to live and work in Fiji, Rabuka said, but also are free to leave if they want.

As he spoke, Fiji Indians initiated opposition to the coup, Indian workers walked off the job at Nadi airport, and Indian storekeepers shut down in the main tourist towns.

Rabuka's soldiers, dressed in full battle gear and wearing masks to prevent recognition, guarded gov-

ernment buildings and two newspaper offices shut down by the coup.

A crowd of several hundred people gathered outside the official Prime Minister's residence in Suva, where deposed Prime Minister Timoci Bavadra and 27 Labour Party government officials and politicians remained under house arrest. They were later dispersed by army trucks.

The British Foreign Office on Friday backed the Governor-General of Fiji, Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, in his stand against Rabuka's coup.

Britain, the former colonial power in Fiji, said in a statement: "The governor-general remains at his post. In the view of the British government he has not been lawfully deprived of his powers."

The statement said Rabuka had met with Ganilau since the coup and they were expected to meet again "after the weekend."

## Prosecutor wants jail for anti-Semites

THE HAGUE (Reuter). — A prosecutor on Friday demanded four-month prison terms for a Dutch evangelist couple already convicted of disseminating anti-Semitic literature.

He told the court Methodists Jenny and Lucas Goeree had been clear-

ly insulting in remark about Jews printed in two editions of their magazine *Evan* and deserved the toughest sentence available for the crime.

Anti-racist groups had asked the prosecutor to make the demand at an appeal court in the eastern Dutch town of Arnhem after the couple were found guilty but not formally punished by a court last year.

Friday's appeal was the latest stage in a long-running legal battle between the groups and the Goerees, who argue that Jews deserved the Nazi persecution of their people in World War Two because they did not worship Jesus Christ.

## THE ISRAEL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

The Israel Chamber Orchestra is pleased to host

Jean François Paillard

and his orchestra

with Christine Paillard

Vocal Ensemble

Mouret: Chamber Concert in E-flat major, op. 30; Debussy: 6 Epigraphes Antiques (Orchestrated by J.F. Paillard); Haydn: "Salva Regia" for chorus, strings and continuo; Franck: Motet for chorus and orchestra; Vivaldi: Kyrie for double chorus and double orchestra. Tel Aviv Museum

Sunday, May 24, Monday, May 25, 1987, 8:30 p.m.

Tickets at Israel Chamber Orchestra office, Asia House, 4 Weizmann St., Tel Aviv, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., Tel. 210102, and at Tel Aviv Museum, Hadram, Castel, Ramat Hasharon; Jerusalem, Binyanei Ha'uma, Sunday, May 31, 1987, 8:30 p.m.

In Jerusalem at the Jerusalem Theatre box office, agencies and Alliance Francaise, 8 Agmon St.

Kfar Saba, Hechal Hatarbut, Yad Labanim, Tuesday, May 26, 1987, Ein Hashofet, Thursday, May 28, 1987.

## Seeking Information

for a book about Jews who committed suicide in Europe or elsewhere after emigration during the time of Nazi persecution. I would appreciate dates of birth and death, information about cause of suicide and photographs.

E. Leyens, c/o ROSENBAUM - Apt. 346, Eichhorn Strasse 56, 7750 Konstanz, W. Germany.

## FOREIGN BRIEFS

### Reagan plugs Nashville radio station

WASHINGTON (AP). — The White House asked a private radio station Friday to refrain from using a tape in which President Ronald Reagan made a promotional statement on behalf of the station Friday.

Reagan was in the middle of a question-and-answer session with about 66 journalists, most of whom were quizzing him on the Iran-Contra affair. When he called on a woman in the front row, she jumped up to hand him a piece of paper, adding, "my general manager says I can't go home unless you read this aloud."

She identified herself as Liz White from WSM Radio in Nashville, Tennessee.

Reagan, saying "Oh boy" with a rueful chuckle, appeared both amused and perplexed by the suggestion.

"Please," begged the reporter after the president hesitated. The president then laughed, paused, and boomed out in his best broadcast voice: "I'm Ronald Reagan. Whenever I'm in Nashville, I listen to Radio 650, WSM, the 50,000 watt Blotworch of the South."

### 'Snail racers' overturned cemetery gravestones

VIENNA. — The police department of Eisenstadt reported it has traced the case of the five broken tombstones in the town's Jewish cemetery to four boys aged between 7 and 10, who used to play on the grounds.

The father of one of the boys turned up at the town's police station, according to the report, after his son had confided in him about the snail races the boys staged inside the cemetery.

They easily displaced the old gravestones in their search for snails, then held snail races on the flat surface of the stones.

The father said he came to the police to clarify the matter, after reading about the suspicion that the vandalism had anti-Semitic and political motives.

### Arab-Americans in protest against movie

WASHINGTON (Reuter). — Arab-American leaders protested Friday against "Ishtar," a \$40 million comedy, because of scenes they said mock Arabs and Moslems.

"The dehumanization of any person and the villainization of any person because of his national origin or religion allows for the dehumanization and villainization of all," Abdeen Jabara, president of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC), told a news conference.

The movie, filmed in Morocco and released nationwide Friday by Columbia Pictures, stars Warren Beatty and Dustin Hoffman as two down-trodden songwriters who travel across the Moroccan desert with a blind camel.

### Court martial for Marine in sex-spy case

WASHINGTON (AP). — A Marine sergeant arrested in the sex and spying scandal at the American Embassy in Moscow will face a court-martial on espionage charges, a general has ruled.

But the general also announced Friday that charges alleging that Sgt. Clayton J. Lonetree allowed Soviet agents inside the embassy would be dropped.

Lt. Gen. Frank E. Petersen Jr., the commanding general of the Quantico, Virginia Marine base, ruled those specific allegations were based on evidence that "consists principally of hearsay which is not admissible at trial."

## Arab world waking up to dangers of Aids

NICOSIA (AP). — The Arab world is moving to protect itself from Aids, screening foreign visitors and training physicians to prevent and recognize the disease.

Arab news media commonly refer to Aids as a "Western phenomenon" and the product of "a degenerate society." A small number of Aids cases have been reported in the Arab world, but most of these cases have been publicly attributed to blood transfusions.

No cases have been publicly attributed to homosexuality or intravenous drug-taking, considered the major source of Aids transmission worldwide. The laws in most Arab countries are based on Islamic jurisprudence, which holds that homosexuality and drug addiction are socially abhorrent and should be severely punished.

Until now, authorities in the conservative Arab countries have shied away from discussing Aids or identifying victims.

A recent medical symposium made only oblique references to Aids in its resolutions. Sources at the symposium, chaired by Kuwait Health Minister Abdul Rahman al-Awadi, said the participants upheld the traditional secrecy of patients' conditions, but "made permissible the disclosure of information, if deemed in the interest of society...to prevent corruption related to religion, the body, the mind, resources or offspring."

The sources said that was intended to cover "certain infections with widespread effects," such as Aids.

The disease is widely seen by Arabs as a result of sexual promiscuity and permissiveness in Europe and the U.S.

The London-based Lebanese weekly *Al-Hawadith* scoffed at Western news media, which it said were presenting Aids as a "miniature doomsday."

"This prompts us Arabs to question whether Aids is truly a universal disease, or merely an American-European disease brought about by decades of permissiveness," the magazine said.

A writer in Kuwait's *Al-Qabas* daily said prevention was the cure for Aids.

Halal (legitimate heterosexual) sex, curtailment of promiscuity, and blood compatibility tests before marriage...are the rules if one wants to avoid falling into a world of vice."

Health authorities of the Gulf Cooperation Council are waiting for World Health Organization guidelines before coordinating an anti-Aids campaign, but they are starting to import equipment to diagnose Aids.

They are most concerned about hundreds of thousands of expatriate Asians, Africans, Europeans and Americans who work in the Arab world. People with confirmed Aids, and suspected expatriate carriers, are deported immediately.

The Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities  
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
The Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot  
Tel Aviv University

invite the public to a series of lectures  
in honour of

Prof. BERNHARD WITKOP

Member, The National Academy of Sciences,  
Washington, D.C.

on  
Wednesday, May 20, 1987 at the Academy  
Albert Einstein Square, Jerusalem

Chairman: Prof. R. Mechoulam, Hebrew University  
16.00 Prof. E. Katzir, Weizmann Institute  
The Artificial Gene of Homo Sapiens  
17.00 Prof. H. Atlan, The Hebrew University  
Hadassah Medical School  
Self-Creation of Meaning  
18.00 Coffee Break  
18.30 Prof. B. Witkop  
Mind Over Matter

Happy Birthday  
Bella  
Kelman-Fuchs

née Shindergin

You've made eighty and  
you're still going strong.

From  
your children, grandchildren  
and great-grandchildren  
and all the rest of the tribe

With thanks to Chaim

17 Rehov Hurgin, Ramat Gan, Tel. 03-744589

## THE ISRAEL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Music Director: Zubin Mehta

SUBSCRIPTION

CONCERT No. 8

TEL AVIV,

Mann Auditorium, 8:30 p.m.

Series A, Thursday, 21.5.87

Programme:

Mozart: Symphony No. 31

Schoenberg: "Vierklarte Nacht"

Dvorak: Symphony No. 8

SUBSCRIPTION

CONCERT No. 9

TEL AVIV,

Mann Auditorium, 8:30 p.m.

Series A: Wednesday, 23.5.87

Series B: Thursday, 28.5.87

Series D: Friday, 29.5.87

(2:00 p.m.)

Series C: Saturday, 30.5.87

(9:00 p.m.)

DANIEL BARENBOIM

conductor and soloist

Programme:

Mozart: Piano concerto K. 595

Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 4



# Herut's 'dark prince' faces party tribunal

In the larger scheme of things, Arye Naor's trial behind closed doors at Herut headquarters at Met-zudat Ze'ev in Tel Aviv won't be much more than a footnote in the history books.

But in the context of the coming elections, whether they revolve around the delayed grand debate over the future of the territories or simply around bizarre and bazaar haggling over pickle-barrel politics and religious legislation, Naor's trial is full of larger meanings about what happened to Herut in the decade since the May 17, 1977 watershed election which at long last propelled Menachem Begin to power.

At the weekend, in a room overlooking the centre of the city, Naor faced a three-man "membership tribunal," and a prosecutor who charged him with violating a rule that forbids Herut members from joining a state institution without party permission. Officially, Naor's crime was to become involved with Foreign Minister Shimon Peres (the most despised person in Herut's demonology) and to volunteer for what Herut rules call a "political organization" and what Naor and the Foreign Ministry call a "peace policy" forum at the ministry.

The forum's job is to plan strategy for peace-making and, says Naor, is strictly non-partisan, a kind of long-needed government think tank about peace. Naor's defence, he said, was "the distinction that exists in English between *policy* and *politics*," both translated into the unflattering Hebrew word "*medina*."

But no defence would have helped

Naor, for between the official legalese, which Naor himself often used to frustrate political opponents in the days when he was Begin's cabinet secretary, and the political reality of Herut's furor over Naor, is the small matter of Naor's total loyalty to Begin and his utter disdain for what Begin's four successors in Herut — Shamir, Levy, Arens and Sharon — have wrought of Begin's peacemaking legacy.

Naor has made a post-Begin career out of using his considerable logical and journalistic skills to puncture Shamir's passivity, Levy's vanity, Arens's foibles and most of all, Sharon's continued presence in Herut.

**Tel Aviv Tel Aviv**  
**Robert Rosenberg**

The former cabinet secretary wrote a book called *Government at War*, which, as would be expected from a true believer in Menachem Begin, attempts to vindicate the former prime minister of blame for the disaster of Lebanon. Between the lines of Naor's book is a thesis first espoused by Yossi Sarid who, in his own inimitable fashion, argued that Sharon and former chief of general staff Rafael Eitan and their sycophants essentially pulled off a military coup d'état in their conduct of the Lebanon war.

Naor has written dozens of articles in recent years explaining how the

current Herut leadership has neither the courage nor the vision of Begin. Naor remains loyal to Begin, refusing to speculate on why, since the summer of 1983, Begin has gone into seclusion in a flat on Rehov Zemah in Jerusalem.

Naor won't say so, but he probably reckons that Prime Minister Shamir wanted him punished for publicly stating that it is the hated Peres who is following Begin's footsteps as far as the peace process is concerned.

Shamir, Naor points out at every opportunity, has never been embarrassed by the fact that he had been opposed to the Camp David agreement. There was a time, by the way, when Naor wasn't embarrassed either by the fact that it took Labour Party support, with a good part of the Herut faction breaking with Begin, in the Knesset, to ratify the Camp David agreement. Begin brought home from Jimmy Carter's presidential retreat.

Thus, the trial. The Herut tribunal gave Naor, who since Begin's retirement in September 1983, has become a kind of dark prince, or at least the uneasy conscience of a party that so relies on princes like MK Dan Meridor and Shamir spokesman Yossi Ahimeir, 45 days to either quit Herut's peace-policy forum or quit Herut.

In the old days of the British Mandate and the IZL underground, Naor wouldn't have been given 15 days of grace. Naor will probably be joining Ezer Weizman, who was thrown out of Herut for



Arye Naor — as cabinet secretary in 1981.

(Rahamim Israeli)

daring to offer up something other than the straight party line.

Naor says he'll send a letter to Herut "within the 15 days they gave me," but he's a pedantic man so he won't say now what he'll say in that letter until it reaches "the fortress," as Herutiks call their headquarters on King George Street.

"It was a show trial, of course," says Naor, referring to Friday's tribunal. "It's part of something that's been happening in the country — part of the extremism and the intolerance."

Naor, who practically grew up on Begin's knee, and who may be the last person in the country under the

age of 70 still reading Ze'ev Jabotinsky for both pleasure and political guidance, has found out how dangerous crossing a party line can be.

It's unlikely that there's anybody left at Herut headquarters who believes so strongly in the written word as to spend days combing through the huge party archives to delete Naor's name from the books. But like Baruch Spinoza, he's going to find out what excommunication is all about. In the long run, that may become a badge of honour. But for Naor, the price for being expelled from the Herut hearth will undoubtedly be a sad sense of loneliness.

## Gaza's hash cache — a four ton nuisance

By BRADLEY BURSTON

**For The Jerusalem Post**  
GAZA. — The problem is one every homemaker knows only too well — that stubborn smell that just won't go away. However, in the case of the large whitewashed structure on Omar al-Muhtar Street here, the anguished residents are not homemakers but the staff of Gaza police headquarters. And the source of the odour wafting constantly through the offices and holding cells is none other than that of hashish — well over four tons worth.

"The smell has become very strong lately," allows Investigations Bureau Chief Avraham Barzilai. "Some of the staff are complaining that they are finding it difficult to concentrate."

The station's formidable stash has been accumulated over the past two months as a result of joint police-IDF naval operations off the Gaza coast.

But the omnipresent aroma is not the most serious nuisance posed by the growing mountain of seized drugs. There is also a question of security. "The presence of this amount of drugs presents a real temptation to certain criminal elements to attempt to break into the police station by force and rob the storage rooms," says Barzilai.

The estimated \$7 million in hashish and other substances has taken its place beside lost bicycles and stolen transistor radios in the station's lost-and-found vaults under a 24-hour armed guard.

The latest drug haul was made last week. Police received a tip that a pair of fishing boats would attempt to land a shipment of drugs at Gaza's

abandoned eastern harbour.

At 1.30 a.m. Monday morning the navy intercepted two fishing vessels, one of which carried 13 inner tubes filled with hashish. Floating in the sea near the second vessel were 14 other inner tubes. The total street value of the haul is estimated at \$1.5 million.

According to police investigators the would-be smugglers followed a favoured plan of drug-runners. Opium and hashish destined for Egypt are shipped by suppliers in Lebanon to international waters near El Arish in northern Sinai. From there the cargo is off-loaded to small fishing boats for the trip to Gaza, where it is transferred by a variety of deceptive conveyances, for the overland trip to Egypt.

The reason for the convoluted route, says Barzilai, is fear. "Drug dealers know that they face the death penalty if they are captured trying to land drugs into Egypt, so they try to minimize the risk by bringing them in via Sinai, which is less well-patrolled. 'Certainly, they are at high risk of being caught by Israeli authorities, but at least there is no question of being executed as a result.'"

The Gaza police are anxious to liquidate their vast drug inventory, but legal procedures dictate that all seized goods must be held until a suspect freely "claims ownership" of the contraband. Only then may the drugs be removed, in an armoured convoy under heavy guard, to a well-ventilated location in the centre of the country for incineration.

In the short term, though, police here seem to be stuck with their cache.

## IPO 'in a state of shock' as fifth conductor cancels

By ELI KAREV

TEL AVIV. — "We are all in a state of shock and exasperation. Desperation comes next," Zubin Mehta, musical director of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, told a press conference here on Friday as he announced the cancellation of appearances by James Levine, the musical director of New York's Metropolitan Opera.

Levine, who cancelled "due to illness," had been scheduled to substitute last Thursday for Leonard Bernstein, who himself had cancelled for health reasons. Levine had also signed to conduct three other performances.

Mehta flew in from Vienna on Thursday to conduct that evening's concert. Levine is the fifth conductor to cancel IPO appearances since the end of February. Besides Bernstein, Antal Dorati, Carlo Maria Giulini and Christoph von Dohnanyi have backed out.

But Mehta still hopes to conclude the orchestra's jubilee season on a high note. Daniel Barenboim, who is to conduct in three Mozart operas "will only cancel over my dead body," Mehta said.

He also announced the retirement of Shalom Ronli-Riklis as assistant musical director and his replacement by Ze'ev Dorman. Mehta said the orchestra would tour Europe in August and September, perform in Poland in November, and travel to the Far East next March.

## Private post offices likely to close early again today

By JUDY SIEGEL  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The owners of some 150 postal agencies around the country are likely to continue sanctions today in a dispute with the Israel Postal Authority over commissions.

The sanctions began on Friday as many of the agencies, which unlike government offices are run by contractors who offer postal services for

a fee, closed early.

According to the Communications Ministry, the contractors refused to delay sanctions and negotiate with the authorities.

On learning of the early closings, the ministry instructed government post offices near the agencies to remain open until all customers had finished their business. It pledges to do the same as long as the contractors continue their sanctions.

## Walk across U.S. in aid of cancer kids

By JUDY SIEGEL  
Post Science and Health Reporter

Ron King, a 30-year-old Israeli real estate man who last year walked 1,000 kilometres around the country to raise money for AIDS research, plans to walk from New York to Los Angeles to help finance the purchase of vital equipment for children with cancer at Beilinson Hospital.

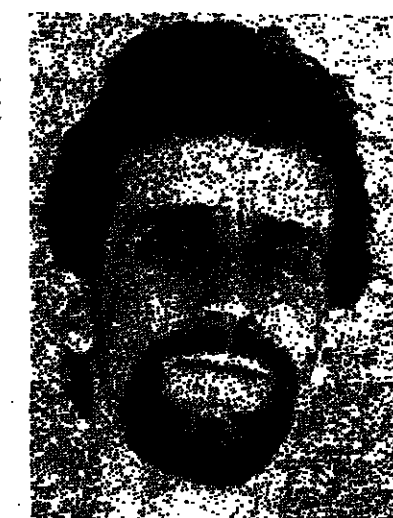
King checked the *Guinness Book of Records* and found that no one has ever succeeded in crossing the North American continent on foot, in one protracted march. He believes he will be the first, and plans to reach California in 10 months — in time to celebrate Israel's 40th birthday at a Los Angeles ceremony.

Last year, the young bachelor succeeded in raising \$100,000 for Kaplan Hospital's AIDS-research centre. He has joined a voluntary group called "Haim" which helps parents of children suffering from leukemia and other cancers.

"What will keep me going, through temperatures as low as -10°C and as high as 35°C, is the picture in my mind of those poor kids — three-year-old children, completely bald from radiation therapy, their fingernails turned yellow," King says.

Six hundred children are being treated for cancer at the Kupat Holim Clalit hospital, and their chances for survival depend on the purchase of the latest medical devices, which the hospital cannot afford to buy. King hopes that the publicity generated during his walk on U.S. Highway 1 will encourage Americans — Jews and non-Jews — to contribute. He hopes to raise \$1 million, which would be enough to pay for the equipment and establish an international research centre on children's cancer at Beilinson.

The U.S. networks have all promised to cover his walk across the nation, and King is looking for



Ron King

(Brian Hendler)

Israeli companies to sponsor his flight and food during the trek. A Canadian Jew has offered to provide him with a trailer and a driver to follow him on the highway and provide a place to sleep at night.

King says he does not doubt that he is physically capable of making the walk, since he completed the Israel trek — about one-sixth of the American journey — with no problems. He is a muscular, thin man, who did combat duty in the Israel Defence Forces.

Sponsors can reach him at (03) 339449 before he leaves in about two months. He has also invited Israeli children who are healthy to donate NIS 1 to his voluntary group — account number 482660 in any Bank Hapoalim — to start the campaign for the hospital equipment.

**STUDY TOUR.** — Eight Israelis are due to leave on a three-week study tour of American Jewish communities organized by the Institute on American Jewish-Israeli Relations.

## TA phone books by alphabet, not region

By JUDY SIEGEL

The new Tel Aviv region telephone directory is being distributed in two volumes which lists the subscribers alphabetically instead of by region, as the previous three volumes did.

The new directory will be available at Bezek and Golden Pages offices, as well as at some post offices in Tel Aviv.

Bezek decided to stop its old practice of publishing separate directories for the different regions, following complaints that people didn't know where to look for a number. In many cases, people living across the street from one another were in separate directories.

would be recommended for the job. But then the committee made an about-face.

It granted Aharon's request that it interview Ravidal — even though this was an internal tender committee and Ravidal was not a Jewish Agency employee.

At a meeting of the National Council of Jewish Agency Staff Committees, a Herut member asked why Stollman's rights had not been defended. The issue was discussed but no resolution was reached.

A number of senior officials of the Aliya Department complained about the way Aharon related to them and the way he made appointments. The council officers agreed to meet with these officials to discuss their complaints more thoroughly.

## Top Agency job for Herut activist

By ARYEH RUBINSTEIN

**Jerusalem Post Reporter**  
In what bears all the earmarks of a political appointment, Haim Aharon, head of the Jewish Agency Aliya Department, has named a Herut activist to a senior post without benefit of the required tender.

The Herutnik is Ariella Ravidal, a former Broadcasting Authority spokeswoman, and she has already assumed her new post as director of the Aliya Department's information and public relations unit.

Aharon ignored the prescribed procedures in making the appointment and could not have done so without the connivance of the three-man, internal tender committee, all of whose members were employee representatives.

Only two persons put their candidacy before the committee. One was Donna Ostrovsky, who holds an MA in journalism and already deals with public relations in the Aliya Department. She is a member of the Herut central committee, and belongs to the Shamir camp. But, at Aharon's suggestion, she withdrew her name.

That left only Shafer Stollman, deputy director of press and public relations in the Jewish Agency. An immigrant from the U.S., Stollman has over eight years' experience in public relations and holds a BA in Jewish studies and an MA in educational administration.

About two weeks ago, one committee member told Stollman that he had been found fully qualified and

would be recommended for the job. But then the committee made an about-face.

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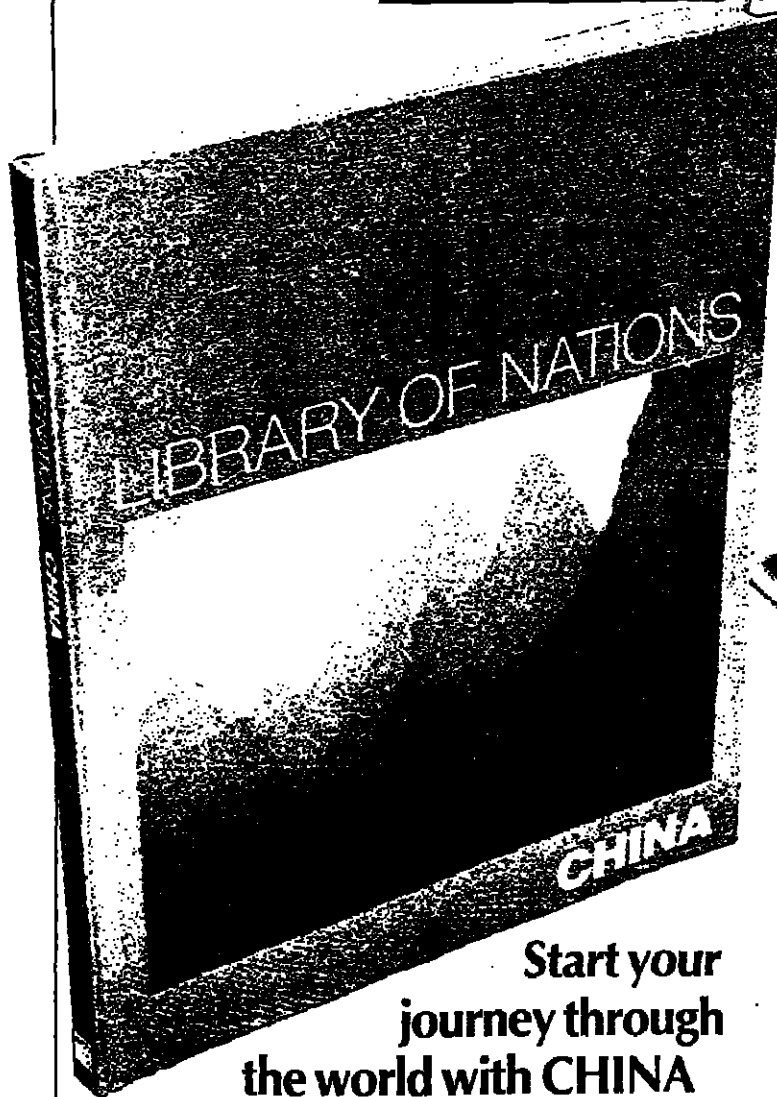
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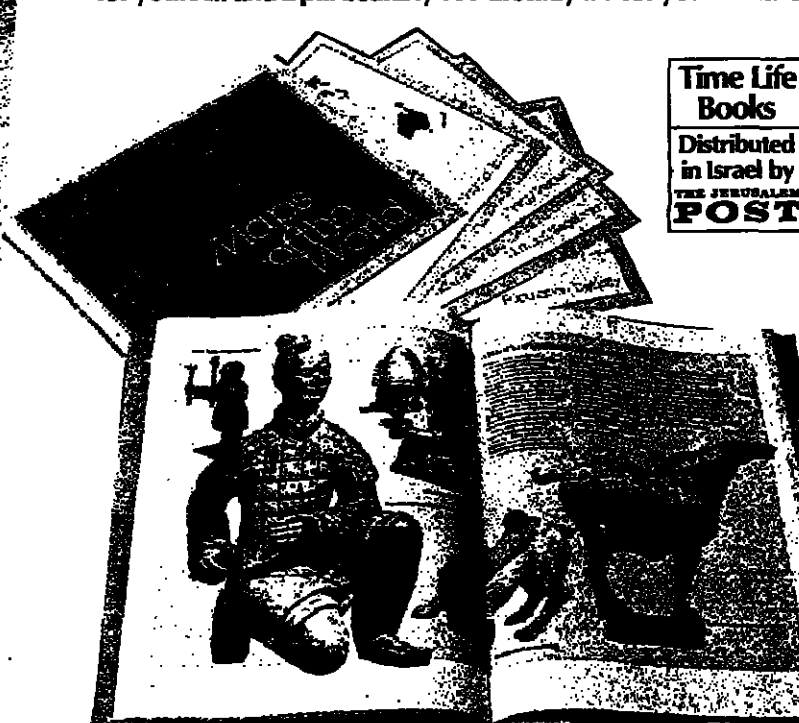


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## MIDDLE EAST ECONOMY/ John Roger

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**Inventory**

**BASEBALL** ( )

**TENNIS**  
**Jaité shoe**

**DAVIS CUP**  
**Kodes qu**

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and prize

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## D.C. without current

FOR YEARS, Israeli leaders appealed to King Hussein to agree to direct negotiations but without result. Now when the king, for an assortment of reasons, is willing to take the plunge — though suited up in an "international conference" — it is Israel's government, paralyzed by the discord of unity, that cannot reciprocate.

But that is only one of the historic ironies that now plagues Mr. Peres's two-year long effort to crank up the peace process that stalled after 1979. Another such irony is to be sought in U.S. policy.

From the end of the Six-Day War, Washington made it plain to all that it does not acknowledge the political legitimacy of Israel's control of all the territories captured in that conflict. At the same time, it recognized the security values inherent in that control and thus agreed with Israel that they should only be surrendered for peace, and for peace reached in negotiations.

So long as the Arab side was unwilling to negotiate, this U.S. position enabled a wide band of convergence with Israel. That convergence persisted despite occasional American attempts to engineer negotiation processes that would spare the Arabs direct talks with Israel. But those attempts always failed, not least because Israel was able to squelch them, or because the Arabs raised the ante.

Yet it was also acknowledged, especially in Israel and Washington, that if negotiations were one day to begin and lead somewhere, this could only occur with the active, indeed very active, involvement of the U.S.

If there were any doubts, the long negotiations with Egypt, capped at Camp David, dispelled them. Though Mr. Begin's initial overture to Anwar Sadat, and the Egyptian leader's dramatic response, were not at all fruits of American diplomacy in 1977 — in fact counter reactions to it — the talks that ensued would not have been consummated in agreement without the energetic participation of President Carter.

But now, when the conditions have again been created for a new diplomatic push to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict, it is the U.S. administration that has appeared otherwise occupied. True, Mr. Peres's painstaking choreography devised to make it possible for King Hussein to brave the stage together with Israel, has been nourished by the help of U.S. diplomatic professionals. However, at the political level in Washington there has been scepticism and reluctance.

President Reagan has shown no eagerness to commit his prestige or attention to the subject. And Secretary of State George Shultz has been tepid, perhaps unaware that this only warmed the resolve of Mr. Shamir to obstruct Mr. Peres's effort.

Only in the past month or so has Mr. Shultz shown signs of realizing that genuine opportunity beckons, that what has been put together is agreement between Jordan and Israel, sanctioned by Egypt, for an authentic negotiation process. This agreement, has, to be sure, American diplomatic support. What it has lacked, however, is the signature of American political drive.

In the last fortnight, Mr. Shultz has tried to make up for lost time while Mr. Reagan has waved gently from the sidelines.

However, in the meantime, Israel's two governments, which can no longer even pretend to be one, have tunneled into opposing bunkers, hampering a Washington that is loath to appear as taking sides.

Mr. Peres is now presumably seeking to persuade Mr. Shultz that an irreversible process, leading to elections in Israel, is underway. And that the U.S. should uncork its political energy to sustain the agreements already reached, so that after such elections, if not before, negotiations can be launched.

That may be an optimistic assessment. In the meantime, the pessimists, and the nay sayers of the Likud, have the upper hand, beneficiaries of the historic irony that when King Hussein, after all these years, seemed ready to lift the phone, Israel's line was out of order and Washington's engaged.

## Peace talks: the mirage and the reality

Yosef Goell

LAST WEEK'S denouement to the developments of the past month or so have made it abundantly clear that in the present circumstances there will be no international conference on a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, and that there will be no early elections in Israel within the next few months that could possibly lead to a change in the Israeli part of those circumstances.

Does that mean, as Labour spokesmen would have it, that an "historic opportunity for peace has been killed"? Despite the hyperbolic overkill that has been resorted to by both sides to the argument, the bulk of the evidence would seem to indicate that no substantive opportunity has been "killed" because no such opportunity existed in the first place. What there was were glimmers of promising developments and of foreboding apprehensions. But these were never sufficient to justify talk of "historic opportunities."

The opportunities perceived by Peres and Labour were three. The existence of a George Shultz and of his persuasive commitment to Israel's security and interests, the likes of which do not emerge in every American administration; the obvious changes transpiring in the Soviet Union under Gorbachev; and King Hussein's new sense of urgency, based on his reading of time as working against him and his regime's interests in the West Bank.

There were also very understandable Israeli apprehensions over the possible emergence of a renewed Eastern front threat once the Iranian war grinds to its inevitable end; and of the never to be dismissed possibility of an imposed solution from the outside as part of a U.S.-Soviet detente, which could be worse than what could be worked out with Jordan directly from Israel's present relative position of strength.

These perceived opportunities and heightened apprehensions were not sufficient, in my mind, to justify the positing of an historic opportunity for a breakthrough to a solution to the four-decades old Arab-Israeli conflict. The argument was, in truth, over a very preliminary and iffy tactic, whose chances of being realized were always very slim, and whose chances, if realized, of leading to a peaceful breakthrough to the conflict, were much closer to nil.

THE PERES exercise in the diplomacy of half a government may have been worth trying. But it did not lead to any results, because the conditions on both sides of the fence were simply not sufficiently ripe to make such results possible. It may be a bitter pill to swallow for those involved in the exercise, but it is far from being the end of the world.

King Hussein has maintained a state of non-belligerency with Israel, and a degree of clandestine coopera-

tion with it, for over 25 years, with the exception of one week in June of 1967, when he was misguided enough to be seduced into going to war against Israel by Egypt's Gamal Abdul Nasser. At times the extent of that Jordanian non-belligerency and cooperation exceeded the extent of the relationship between Israel and Egypt during the eight years since the signing of the peace treaty. But Hussein has never felt himself strong enough to raise the level of that relationship to that of a formal peace treaty.

Has there been any indication, during the recent past, that Hussein is now capable of delivering more in the way of a formal peace with Israel? The degree of Jordan's continued total economic dependence on the surrounding Arab world, of its justified fear of Syria, and of the diminution of its control over the Palestinian population in the territories would all seem to indicate that the answer is in the negative. Recourse to the strategem of an international conference that would accompany talks between Israel, Jordan and the Palestinians would inevitably work in the direction of raising Hussein's price for an accord with Israel, rather than of making him more conciliatory.

If Hussein cannot realistically be expected to deliver significantly more, in the sense of Israel's conception of peace, than he has given in the past 25 years, the present democratically elected leadership of Israel cannot realistically be expected to deliver a significantly large enough evacuation of the territories acquired 20 years ago, together with symbolic concessions in Jerusalem, to seduce him beyond the limits of his own prudence. The results of the July 1984 elections are a fact of life, regrettable as they may be to some of us. They have meant no further settlements in Judea and Samaria during Peres's two years in office as prime minister and no meaningful territorial concessions in the West Bank during Shamir's two years in office. Peres may have performed some impressive integral calculus exercises on the international scene, but he was dead wrong on his simple political arithmetic at home in regard to the possibility of the Knesset legislating early elections around the issue of the international conference.

CAN LABOUR hope to win an election on the issue of going to an international conference? I doubt it. The country has for long been much more hawkish than Labour's Knesset faction. The rise in Labour's fortunes in the polls is largely a function of Peres's impressive performance in beating inflation in 1985, and of the sorry state of the Likud's internal affairs and lacklustre leadership. A large part of the electorate could be expected to follow the recommendation of a political leadership to risk making territorial concessions in exchange for peace, if it had confidence in that leadership and if it were persuaded that what was being offered was really peace.

But that is far from being the case on both points. It is hard to assess the impact of the imminent Pollard investigation reports on the political leadership of both major parties, but they will obviously not enhance confidence in those leaders. It is very doubtful whether the existing leadership of both parties will want to risk an early election so soon after the tabling of those reports. And on the second point, the hopes that have been raised are not for peace but for a form of the non-belligerence that we have had with Egypt. It is far from being a persuasive argument for the taking of the real risks entailed in any territorial arrangement.

The events of the past few months around this incendiary issue has again highlighted the basic weaknesses of what has been so perversely called the government of "national unity." The further breakdown in relations between the Likud and Labour will make the non-performance of the present "national unity" government all the more shameful and problematic. But the country will simply have to wait a bit longer to have a change to change the manner in which it is being misgoverned. It's a hell of a way to run a country.

## The Jewish Agency and the World Zionist Organization

## Dialogue after the dark days

Nathan Ra'an

THE FORTHCOMING Zionist Congress is scheduled to take place in Jerusalem in December 1987. It is beyond doubt that the last term of the Zionist Executive, under the leadership of Arye Leib Dufzin, was the darkest in the history of the World Zionist Organization (WZO).

Aliya has come to a virtual standstill, while *yerida* has increased. Major functions of the Zionist movement were not fulfilled.

Two items will be put on the agenda in December — what does Zionism mean in today's world and the impending danger of a rift in the relations between the Jewish Agency and the WZO.

The time has come to analyse, frankly and openly, the relationship between the Jewish Agency and the Zionist movement before an unbridgeable rift develops. The dynamics of the complex relations between the Jewish Agency and the Zionist movement are symbolized by the secular trinity of the Jewish Agency, the Zionist Movement and the State of Israel.

The Jewish Agency Law, enacted by the Knesset, created the legal framework for the functioning of the Jewish Agency in post-independence Israel. It gave the agency both standing and responsibilities within the national budget. It is the only case where a government permitted a voluntary organization such a vital role.

A PROPOSAL, to completely separate the Jewish Agency from the WZO, is now being prepared for the congress to be held in December and is gathering much support in Zionist circles. If a frank dialogue and a courageous examination of the state of affairs does not take place in time, such a dangerous proposal could be easily accepted. It would bring to an abrupt end the cooperation in a joint Jewish effort so dearly needed in the building of Israeli society.

In the process of rethinking "Who is a Zionist?" two phenomena

appear to be highly relevant and at the same time highly contradictory: the Israeli syndrome of snobbery and the inferiority complex from which the fundraising groups in the Diaspora suffer. One can find an outstanding example of these improper relations in the semantic "game" played by the two groups.

In most partnerships between fundraisers and an executive body for whom they work (e.g., universities or hospitals) the fundraisers are called the Board of Trustees. If so, why does the Jewish Agency have a Board of Governors? Who governs? The phrase connotes a sort of high commissioner who may dictate policy instead of creating a true partnership based on mutual cooperation. Clear definitions and proper use of language should contribute to a state of equilibrium among the partners.

THE QUESTION of whether Israel remains the main Jewish centre or if we are observing the evolution of two Jewish centres of equal status (the other being the U.S.) (such as Jerusalem and Babylon in Talmudic times) sheds light on the problem of the partnership between the Diaspora and Israel — between the fundraisers and the people who live in this country.

The necessity for dialogue between the Jewish Agency and the WZO is all the more crucial now. There is an urgent need for clarifying this relationship before the meeting of the Zionist Executive in mid-June, and a determination must be made before the December congress.

In order to enable the Jewish Agency and the WZO to fulfil their respective functions, the task of each must be defined and delineated. In this way, we can avoid duplications and misunderstandings. A frank dialogue would bring about the centrality of aliya as the main aim in the work of the WZO and allow the Jewish Agency to fulfil its task of helping to shape Israeli society.

This would also help prevent an explosive situation from developing within the Jewish Agency and the WZO. Only a true partnership and true cooperation, after resolving the misunderstandings and differences, will forestall a permanent rift.

Therefore, a clear distinction must be drawn between the tasks of the Jewish Agency's executive and those of the WZO.

Above all, the call for a frank examination should strengthen the centrality of Israel and the commitment to aliya.

In the last week of March, the chairman of the board of governors of the Jewish Agency for Israel, Jerold C. Hoffberger, wrote: "It may well be assumed that the serious call in many quarters for the separation of functions and persons in the chairmanship and treasury of the WZO and the Jewish Agency is an attack on one or both of these organizations."

This statement highlights the necessity of an urgent examination before we reach the point of no return — a final and irreconcilable rift.

The writer is the chairman of the Platform Committee of the World Labour Zionist Movement and a member of the Israel Labour Party Bureau.

## READERS' LETTERS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir, — Christa Reppel's concerned letter of April 19 questioning the effect of the Demjanjuk trial on Israeli youth, and wondering who in Israel would inform this youth of the genuine efforts being made by people like her to repair the horrors inflicted by the Nazis on the Jews during the Holocaust, was most moving.

The efforts by schools both in Israel and Germany to bring youth together to create a greater understanding of the past and the present, can only strengthen the relationship between our two peoples. The same applies to the excellent work done by the German-Israeli Friendship societies and the numerous church organizations involved in this mutually healing process.

However all who have survived the Holocaust and witnessed the near destruction of the Jewish people have a duty and obligation to teach each generation to remember and learn from the past and especially from recent history.

The road to reconciliation is a long one and people like Miss Reppel and many thousands of Jews and non-Jews must keep right on going to the end of it.

ARIEH CHAPMAN  
Tel Aviv.

Sir, — My husband and I have read Ms Reppel's letter with surprise. We did not expect these questions, nor these conclusions, from someone who deals with students' exchanges between Israel and West Germany. Ms Reppel writes of efforts to "work towards a better understanding between the two peoples. How is such understanding possible, except on the basis of facts? And if these facts had not been so horrible, would there have been a need for such efforts?

Ms Reppel says that "all those who heard the witnesses" at the Demjanjuk trial were "overpowered by hatred and aversion to Germans." Has she noted any change in the attitude of Israelis and other

## RESPONSE TO CHRISTA REPPEL

Jews since the trial started? Or does she think the many Israelis who have had contacts with Germans for many years did not know before this trial what happened during the Nazi era?

This is probably the last occasion for eye-witnesses to report in public, in a dignified, factual manner what happened in the death camps. It does what all those well-meaning groups in Germany purport to do: it provides information.

E. WALTHER  
Ramat Gan.

Sir, — Although Christa Reppel is uncomfortable and "alarmed" when listening and reading about the Demjanjuk trial, she should realize in her compassion and remorse that the cause of the trial — the horrific truths of the Holocaust — should be broadcast loud and clear for generations to come in spite of the effect the mind-boggling facts have on one's sensibilities.

The unbelievable reality is that, for every good Christian such as Ms Reppel, there are those who even now deny the existence of the Holocaust and those who don't, but regret an unfinished job.

So my worry is different from hers. If this can happen when the creatures who perpetrated all this are still walking the earth, what will happen 20 years from now? Therefore, the worry of German and Israeli youth being friends takes a back seat.

NAOMI FEINSTEIN  
Netanya.

Sir, — I would like to reassure Ms Reppel that at least as far as the youth of Rehovot is concerned, the Demjanjuk trial did not cause any hatred or aversion to contemporary Germans. I can testify to that, since during this Pessah week, about 200 German young people representing different sport and cultural organizations from Heidelberg visited Israeli youth in Rehovot within the

framework of a partnership agreement between the two cities.

The Germans stayed in the homes of the Israelis, visited the country, engaged in a variety of sport and cultural activities and celebrated Pessah together with their Israeli hosts in a most congenial and warm atmosphere. When they returned to Heidelberg there were genuine expressions of sorrow on both sides since true friendships were established during their short stay here.

We feel that such encounters constitute the foundation of a better future between the youth of our two countries, and this in full recognition of what has happened in the past.

Professor B. CZERNOBILSKY,  
Chairman, Friendship Association  
Rehovot-Heidelberg

Sir, — As a German living in Israel and busy with the subject Christa Reppel brings up I would like to answer her.

In her first question she insinuates that Israelis hate Germans. I think her assumption is wrong. There are Israelis who are not able or willing to make contacts with Germans or Germany; they have good reasons for this and we must respect this fact. I never felt hatred here and even have good friends among people who suffered a lot from the Germans.

She is right, there are lucky some circles in Germany trying to renew relations between Jews and Germans. On the other hand, we have to keep our eyes open for those trying to suppress the past, and for the anti-Semitism rearing its ugly head in our society today.

If relations between Germans and Jews are built up on mutual trust and friendship based on learning from the past, trials like Demjanjuk's are not disturbing, but helpful. Together we must study the facts of the Demjanjuk trial in order to base our work in the student exchange programmes on truth and not suppression.

KLAUS DURSCH,  
Nes Ammin.

## POSTSCRIPTS

**P.S.** BRITISH toads have begun crossing a country road to their spawning grounds, using tunnels specially built to protect them from traffic.

To the delight of onlookers toad-lovers and villagers, more than 100 of the warty amphibians passed through the two tunnels between dusk and dawn recently, said Tom Langton of the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society.

Wakened from hibernation when the temperature rose to 5 degrees centigrade, the toads hopped and crept out of the woods at Hambleden, a Thames riverside village 53 kms. west of London. The males were chirping their mating calls and some couples were already mating on the move.

"The whole wood was moving," said Langton, who had been keeping watch since the underpasses were opened by Lord Skelmersdale, a government minister, in early March.

About 800 toads hit the spawning trail, but although funneled to the 20-metre tunnels by low plastic fences, "they seemed to be a bit puzzled by it all," he said.

**P.S.** AMERICA'S National Weather Service has ordered a halt to all test warnings on its U.S. Weather Wire until corrections can be made in new computer programs that have led to several false severe weather warnings in recent days.

In the most widely publicized instance, a tornado warning was issued recently stating, incorrectly, that a twister had destroyed the city of Rockford, Illinois, and was headed for Chicago.

The statement was broadcast on several radio stations in the Chicago area before a correction was issued.

**A visit to the museum is educational. But kids enjoy it anyway.**

**P.S.** AS HE READ the wedding vows, the Rev. William Hudson III's head was barely visible over the top of the pulpit. But that's to be expected, because he is just 13.

Hudson, who has been preaching at Chicago's Zion Temple Baptist Church since he was 8, performed his first wedding recently, uniting Regina Rice and Gary Henderson with vows he wrote himself.

"I heard his ceremonies a couple times and he's real good," said the new Mrs. Henderson when asked why the couple chose Hudson.

Hudson was ordained a minister last fall at age 12, but his mother says he began preaching at 3, before he could read.

"What he would do is take the Bible and look at the pictures and preach by the pictures, and he would come out sweating," Patricia Hudson said. "He was just really serious about what he was doing."

Hudson has appeared in churches in other cities, once preaching to 1,000 people in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

His goals are to "keep on preaching the way of the Lord and get my own church."

Hudson attends elementary school and insists he's like any other youngster who likes to play football and basketball. His classmates nicknamed him "the reverend," but they don't give him special treatment.

"Except... they don't curse around me," he said.

**P.S.** BELGIAN police say they have cracked a major child sex ring which developed pornographic photographs of children in the basement of the main Brussels office building of the UN Children's Fund (Unicef).

The police arrested Michel Feli, 45, a member of a Belgian pedophile organization, following a recent raid on the Unicef office.

Feli, a volunteer with Unicef, was using the basement of the building to develop the pictures of children aged between 12 and 16, a police spokesman told the press. The pictures were then sold.

**P.S.** THE MEDITERRANEAN is slowly recovering from decades of pollution, with more beaches fit for swimming and more nations devoting money to saving the sea, a UN official said recently.

In a speech written for the Society for International Development in Rome, Mustafa Tolba, executive director of the UN Environment Programme, gave a rundown of various efforts to fight pollution in the world's largest inland sea.

"The Mediterranean is on its way to gradual recovery, after many years in which its death from pollution was popularly predicted," Tolba said. "We have stopped the deterioration."

Tolba said that 10 years ago "one-third of Mediterranean beaches were unsafe for bathers. Today the proportion is one fifth."

He noted that most countries with Mediterranean shores now have monitoring programmes, with Libya and Syria recently initiating theirs.

However, Tolba warned against too much optimism.

"We are especially concerned that the countries sharing a sea which can renew its waters only once over an 80-year-cycle still permit an estimated 10 billion tons of domestic and industrial waste to be discharged into it each year.... And while we can state with reasonable certainty that the open Mediterranean is still relatively unaffected, many coastal regions are heavily polluted."

**P.S.** EXHIBITORS at the recent Frankfurt Fur Fair, the world's largest showcase of fur and hide fashions, say business is booming despite protests by animal rights groups.

Fur coats are increasingly popular, and 35 million mink hides were not enough to satisfy world demand last year, said Juergen Thorer, president of West Germany's Furriers' Association. Only seven million hides were used 30 years ago.

The fair rigidly controls the kinds of furs on display and does not allow any endangered animals such as large spotted cats — the leopard and the ocelot in particular — or smaller species such as the South American otter.



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